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Agents and Policy-Holders of this Company are advised that provision has been made for meeting all liabilities that may be found against the Company by reason of the great disaster at San Francisco, our London Office having cabled instructions as follows:

"E. G. Richards, United States Manager:

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United States Branch: 76 William Street, New York.

City Department: W. P. YOUNG,

General Agent.

HEADED OFF \$10,000,000 FRAUD

SETON, N. & W. FORGER, TOLD OF PLOT TO TRAP RICH MEN.

He and His Associates, Colney, Humphreys and Smith, Sentenced—Scheme Seton Revealed Was a Stock Forgery Which "Would Have Staggered Community."

Four members of the gang that took part in the forgery of the Norfolk and Western Railway stock certificates were started for prison yesterday. In the proceedings before Recorder Goff before they were sentenced it was brought out that a \$10,000,000 stock forgery was nipped just in time by the discovery of the Norfolk and Western forgery.

If it hadn't been for the arrest of C. Augustus Seton, said to be the head of the Norfolk and Western forgery, the \$10,000,000 stock forgery might have gone through and "staggered the community," according to a statement made by Charles Le Barbier, Seton's lawyer.

Mr. Le Barbier would not give any of the details of the \$10,000,000 forgery except to say that some of the Norfolk and Western gang were concerned in it with others. Assistant District Attorney Garvin, who had charge of the Norfolk and Western investigation, refused to say anything about it.

It is understood, however, that the names of some prominent men were to be used to float the scheme and that the intended victims were rich men. It was Seton who gave the District Attorney's office enough information to start an investigation that made the men behind the scheme drop it. Seton was sent to Sing Sing for eight years. He was not sentenced for his connection with the Norfolk and Western forgery, although he pleaded guilty to forgery in the first degree. He got the sentence for having fled from the Houston, Galveston and Interurban Railroad after a \$7,000 fine for this he was convicted before he made a confession of his part in the Norfolk and Western forgery.

It was explained in court yesterday that three other men were being sought for the Norfolk and Western forgery, and some valuable information which had been given out by Seton should be considered before sentence was passed. Recorder Goff said he would defer sentence on the Norfolk and Western forgery until the investigation had been completed.

Col. T. C. Colney of Nevada, sir, was sentenced to seven years and six months. Colney is already under sentence of four years and six months for selling a cancelled \$1,000 bond of the Hempstead and New York Railway Company. Seton, J. Humphreys, who forged some of the names on the Norfolk and Western bonds, got six years. Douglas E. Smith, who also committed forgery but is such a wreck that he didn't know what he was doing, was sent to the penitentiary for a year.

It was a queer looking lot—Seton, Colney, Humphreys and Smith—that was arraigned before Recorder Goff. They had been standing in line with a fence, pickpockets and burglars. Seton took the head of the line when the four names were called. He is a boyish looking chap with a shrewd face. His wife, a blond young woman, sat in the back of the courtroom.

Next to Seton stood Colney. His wife and child were in the courtroom. He is a round faced, pudgy man, who made a front for the gang. He wore a fancy grey suit and the latest thing in flannel shirts. He glanced at Seton and had just had a squabble in the prison pen—and whispered to his counsel, Terence McManus. Then came Humphreys, a full faced chap, who looked like an overgrown boy. Smith, almost deaf and looking like a wreck, stood at the end of the line.

Mr. McManus made a short plea for Colney in which he called attention to the fact that there were four years and six months hanging over him. Mr. LeBarbier made a long speech in behalf of Seton. He said he had advised Seton to make a confession, and it was through him that the forgery was cleaned up and confidence in the financial district restored.

He has yet services to render, said Mr. LeBarbier. He helped bring to the bar the other people here. Seton was the victim. There are two others for whom the District Attorney is looking. Seton is helping find them. He is doing everything he can to aid the State and county. He was the means of stopping a swindle that would have staggered the community. It was a stock forgery of \$10,000,000. He gave the information on which it was stopped.

One of the principal witnesses against Colney was Harry G. Thayer, general manager of the Hamilton Bank Note Company. Seton in his confession said that Thomas had considerable work for him, including the printing of the Norfolk and Western bonds.

Sergeants Hurlbut and Reardon Get Back. Justice Garretson in Brooklyn yesterday granted peremptory writs of mandamus compelling Police Commissioner Nigham to reinstate Sergeants Hurlbut and Reardon to duty. They were retired last May for physical disability. This was consequent on the decision of the Court of Appeals in the Metcalf case.

RUSH OF RELIEF TRAINS.

Women Baking Bread and Boiling Eggs—School Children Work.

LOS ANGELES, April 20.—Four relief trains have already left Los Angeles, and others will be sent to-morrow. The first train left at 8:30 last night. The contents have been composed of almost everything that is kept in the stores by grocery men. The local bakeries are working overtime, and not a loaf of bread could be bought by private citizens to-day.

A request has also been sent out to the women of the city to assist in baking. Thousands of eggs have been boiled and loaded upon the trains. Tons of condensed milk and cream have been donated. Scores of freight trains were run through the streets of Los Angeles yesterday. The trains were stopped at the central points, where the provisions were gathered and cars were loaded in record breaking time.

The streets in places were blocked at times to-day by the relief workers, express wagons, private automobiles and vehicles of all kinds that were hauling clothing and food. Car loads of clothing of all descriptions, blankets, comforters, have been loaded on trains that are going north.

School children were sent to their homes this morning and were told to return with clothing or staple food of some kind. They have been of invaluable service in collecting the provisions.

BOY STOLEN FROM MOTHER.

Wife of Dr. William M. Richards Blames Husband for Kidnapping of Son.

CHICAGO, April 20.—Yale men, members of the class of '95 and of the senior secret society of Scroll and Keys, are believed by the police to be the men who kidnapped three-year-old Anson Head Richards from in front of the home of his mother, Mrs. Rosie H. Richards, to-day.

The boy was kidnapped, so the mother says, by agents of his father, Dr. William Richards of New York, son of Eugene L. Richards, professor of mathematics at Yale.

The kidnapping was accomplished with the aid of a touring car. Two of the men picked up the boy and ran with him to the auto. The chauffeur put on full power and was soon out of sight.

The kidnapping is the culmination of a romance that had its beginning eight years ago in New York. Dr. Richards went to the metropolis to study medicine. While there he married Miss Rosie Head, living in Gramercy Park.

Two years ago, Mrs. Richards told the police, her husband eloped with one of the nurses at a hospital to which he was attached. Mrs. Richards came to Chicago, bringing the boy with her.

Some months ago Mrs. Richards brought suit for divorce and got a temporary decree, granting her the custody of the child and alimony.

NEW WANAMAKER STORE OPEN.

Five Floors in Big Building Shown to the Public—Men Get a Chance.

Five floors of the new Wanamaker store were opened yesterday, more for public inspection than for sales purposes. The building covers the block just south of the original Stewart store and towers high above the old building. The basement has been open for business for some time and has been used as an approach to the Astor place subway station.

In the new store no department is devoted to the sale of women's goods. In fact it is considered a store for men and for the home. Housewares in the basement are arranged in alcoves. The main floor is devoted to men's and boys' clothing and furnishings.

Entering from Broadway the arrangement of the store is striking. Rotundas extend up to the sixth floor, where the light, in coming down through a court or hollow square formed by the floors above, is intercepted by a huge stained glass dome.

The second floor is given up to pianos. Each different make of piano has a room to itself, fitted up on the general lines of the average New York parlor that can afford a piano. On this floor there is a concert hall with a seating capacity of 1,500.

The alcove system applies on the third floor to the various styles and makes of china and glass. Cut glass, Sevres ware, Royal Bonn and almost every other known variety is shown separately.

Upholstery and wall paper occupy the fourth floor and carpets and rugs take up the fifth, which are all that are ready thus far.

Above the eleventh floor is a cold storage plant that can hold 30,000 fur coats. Paga for 15,000 muffs are provided. The temperature is maintained at 15 degrees above zero.

LAWYER MILES CONVICTED.

End of the Long Sewer Fraud Trial—Sentence Next Monday.

Lawyer William O. Miles and his two clerks, Frank M. Wandell, Jr., and Charles M. Wells, were convicted in the County Court, Brooklyn, yesterday morning of conspiracy to defraud the city of New York by means of fraudulent claims in connection with the overflow of the sewers in

Brooklyn. Martin J. McMahon, chief of the Bureau of Sewer Claims, and John B. Scanlon, an examiner in the same office, which is a bureau attached to the Comptroller's office, were acquitted. The jury were unable to agree in the case of Daniel Casey, a clerk in Miles's office. The six men were jointly indicted.

Lawyer Brundage, who represented Miles, Wandell, Wells and Casey, asked for time in order to make the usual motions for a

dismissal of the verdict as being against the weight of evidence. Judge Crane granted the motion for time. He said he would pronounce sentence on Monday. District Attorney Clarke then moved that the convicted men be remanded to Raymond Street Jail until Monday. Judge Crane committed Wandell and Wells to jail, but permitted Miles to be paroled in the custody of his counsel. There were many who commented on Judge Crane's leniency in favor of Miles, but the Judge said that Miles had a family

and a house and a law practice, while the others might slip the jail bail. Lawyer Brundage on Monday will try to secure from a Supreme Court Justice a certificate of reasonable doubt as to the legality of the conviction. If the certificate is granted it stays execution of sentence pending the appeal. The penalty for conspiracy, which is a mild misdemeanor, is one year in prison and \$500 fine. In the case of a lawyer who pays runners, as was charged in the indictments, to secure clients to sue the city, a conviction also disbars him from the practice of law.

Lawyer Stapleton was counsel for McMahon and Scanlon, who were acquitted. Casey was discharged by Judge Crane, as the jury disagreed in his case. It is not likely he will be tried again.

Guests at the White House.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Miss Grace Potter and Miss Corinne Robinson, both of New York, the latter the niece of the President, are guests in the White House.



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